

CIA-ØK

The Danish Press Attaché in Washington, Preben HANSEN, in a statement to RB-REUTER, characterizes the allegation "set forth by the CIA" that the Danish East Asiatic Company "is a Communist front organization", as absurd. "It would be the same as calling the Danish Government a Communist front organization", Preben Hansen says.

The name of the Ø.K. has been mentioned in connection with the suspended CIA employee Hans TOFTE, who claimed in an interview to BERL. that the CIA had registered the East Asiatic Company as a Communist front organization." He protested, but even some months ago, when he saw the file in question, the mistake was not corrected, he claimed.

POL. adds that a spokesman of the CIA said last night that he could not comment, but would investigate the matter.

(POL/1, BERL/1, August 6

The case has caused a good deal of attention in the Danish press, which, like some papers in the USA, calls it a "James Bond case". BERL. editorially regrets the incident, adding that small errors by the CIA may be ridiculed, but great errors may lead to doubt on U.S. policy generally.

Communist L&F has no sympathy for Hans TOFTE, who is "an instigator of war and has been on every disturbed scene for many years".

Hans Tofte worked in Ø.K. in his younger days, and is a contemporary of the director, PAGH.

BERL/1 (2.section), Aug.7
L&F/3, Aug.7-8, L&F/2, Aug.6 ed)
AKT/3, August 6